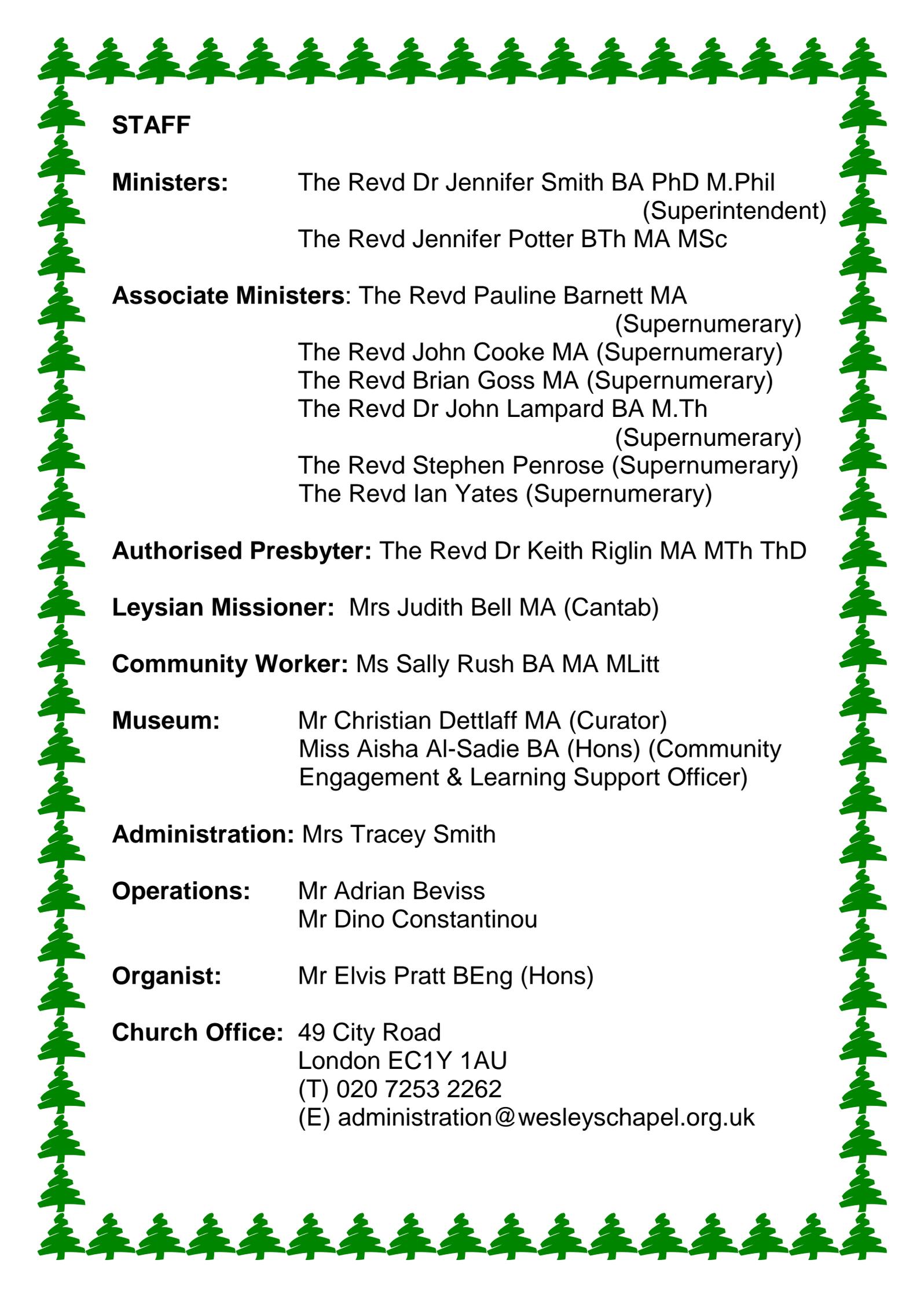


# WINDOW on WESLEY'S



December/January



**STAFF**

**Ministers:** The Revd Dr Jennifer Smith BA PhD M.Phil  
(Superintendent)  
The Revd Jennifer Potter BTh MA MSc

**Associate Ministers:** The Revd Pauline Barnett MA  
(Supernumerary)  
The Revd John Cooke MA (Supernumerary)  
The Revd Brian Goss MA (Supernumerary)  
The Revd Dr John Lampard BA M.Th  
(Supernumerary)  
The Revd Stephen Penrose (Supernumerary)  
The Revd Ian Yates (Supernumerary)

**Authorised Presbyter:** The Revd Dr Keith Riglin MA MTh ThD

**Leysian Missioner:** Mrs Judith Bell MA (Cantab)

**Community Worker:** Ms Sally Rush BA MA MLitt

**Museum:** Mr Christian Dettlaff MA (Curator)  
Miss Aisha Al-Sadie BA (Hons) (Community  
Engagement & Learning Support Officer)

**Administration:** Mrs Tracey Smith

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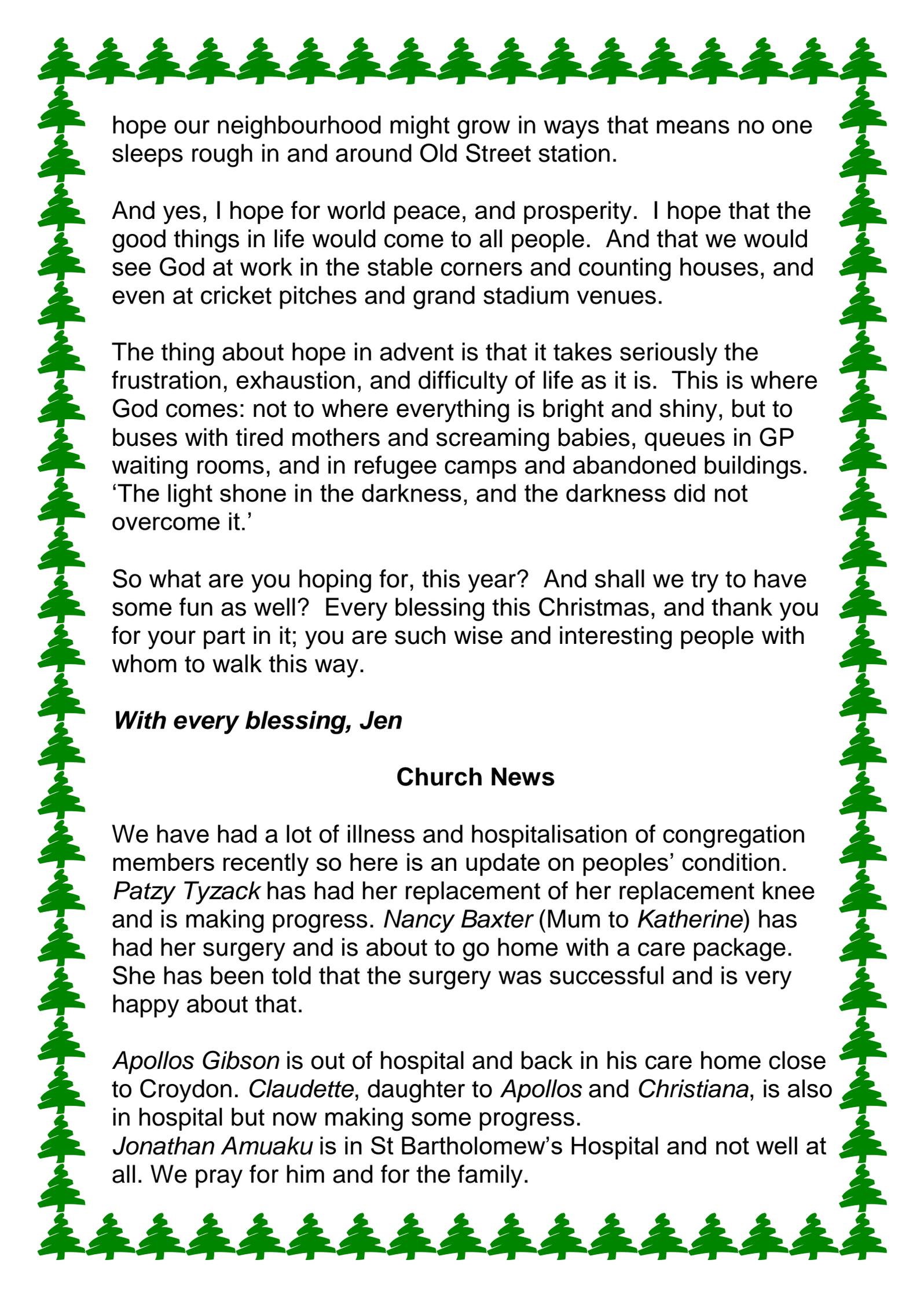
Advent hope...

Happy New Year!

Finally, the church year has changed and we are finished (mostly) with readings from Matthew and into a new cycle, beginning in the first Sunday of December. This year's lectionary readings will mainly come from Mark, as we move into the middle year of our three-year cycle. Matthew, Mark, Luke – Matthew, Mark, Luke – the years' cycle (with John creeping in for high days and holidays) forces us to look at all the corners of Jesus' ministry, and shows us different glimpses recorded by those who came in the hundred or so years that followed.

But meanwhile, we are getting ready for Christmas at Wesley's Chapel, my first on City Road. And this season of Advent is all about building hope. So my question is this: what do we actually hope for? There are all of the obvious things I know I OUGHT to hope for (world peace, the England cricket team to rebound, etc) but in the maelstrom of preparation and church activity, what do you really hope will happen among us? Not what we ought, but what we really long for in the coming year?

I hope we will have good health, and that those of us who are lonely or grieving will find companionship. I hope we will have enough, and that those among us struggling with debts will get just enough ahead to breathe easy. I hope none among us are heartbroken in this coming year. I hope we will attract the curious and the longing into our church worship, and have the generosity to greet them. I hope we read the Bible seriously and gently, in this 408th year since King James authorised the version which has so shaped English-diaspora culture, faith, and literature. I hope our children flourish, and we are more able to nurture them, and their parents. I hope we find easy ways of doing church life that do not keep us all indoors with meetings, and do make us leap out of bed when Sunday comes. (And not just with that panicky lateness of a minister whose alarm has not gone off!) I



hope our neighbourhood might grow in ways that means no one sleeps rough in and around Old Street station.

And yes, I hope for world peace, and prosperity. I hope that the good things in life would come to all people. And that we would see God at work in the stable corners and counting houses, and even at cricket pitches and grand stadium venues.

The thing about hope in advent is that it takes seriously the frustration, exhaustion, and difficulty of life as it is. This is where God comes: not to where everything is bright and shiny, but to buses with tired mothers and screaming babies, queues in GP waiting rooms, and in refugee camps and abandoned buildings. 'The light shone in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.'

So what are you hoping for, this year? And shall we try to have some fun as well? Every blessing this Christmas, and thank you for your part in it; you are such wise and interesting people with whom to walk this way.

***With every blessing, Jen***

### **Church News**

We have had a lot of illness and hospitalisation of congregation members recently so here is an update on peoples' condition. *Patzy Tyzack* has had her replacement of her replacement knee and is making progress. *Nancy Baxter* (Mum to *Katherine*) has had her surgery and is about to go home with a care package. She has been told that the surgery was successful and is very happy about that.

*Apollos Gibson* is out of hospital and back in his care home close to Croydon. *Claudette*, daughter to *Apollos* and *Christiana*, is also in hospital but now making some progress.

*Jonathan Amuaku* is in St Bartholomew's Hospital and not well at all. We pray for him and for the family.



*Monika Shaffer-Fehre* is now in St Georges Hospital, Tooting and awaiting an operation on her back. She is getting very frustrated at having to lie on her back all the time. We pray that she will have her operation and then make progress very soon.

*Doris McGovern* is now at home from hospital and very happy to be so. We pray for her as she gets stronger and look for the day when she will be able to join us in fellowship again.

It was good to hear that *Rachelle Tilly's* father, who became quite ill while on holiday in Hawaii is now much better and back home in the States.

*Kay Chapman's* young grandson is not well – we pray that he will soon be better.

We do not see *Wilf Hirst* these days as he finds it difficult to make the journey to Wesley's Chapel. He is now 93 years old and *Brian Goss* often visits him.

### **An Alternative Advent Calendar to support the Whitechapel Mission**

In late November I visited Whitechapel Mission. This is an amazing charity, located on Whitechapel Road, just a 10 minute walk from my flat. It serves about 300 breakfasts a day and provides about 150 showers a day for people who are homeless. It also provides new clothes, helps people claim benefits/find accommodation, helps people learn skills, and puts people in touch with services they need. They are open every day of the year – even Christmas day.

Just think about your own life this morning: Did you sleep in a place where you felt safe? Did you wake up in your own bed? Did you have a shower? Did you put on clean clothes? Did you eat breakfast?.... Things we take for granted and yet across England in 2016, 4,134 people were found sleeping rough on any given night – that's an increase of 16% on 2015. The universal credit debacle is only expected to worsen figures for 2017. Just think

about that: 4,134 sons, daughters, brothers, sisters and friends. If you all think back to paths you took in life, we're probably all just a few steps away from finding ourselves in situations like them.

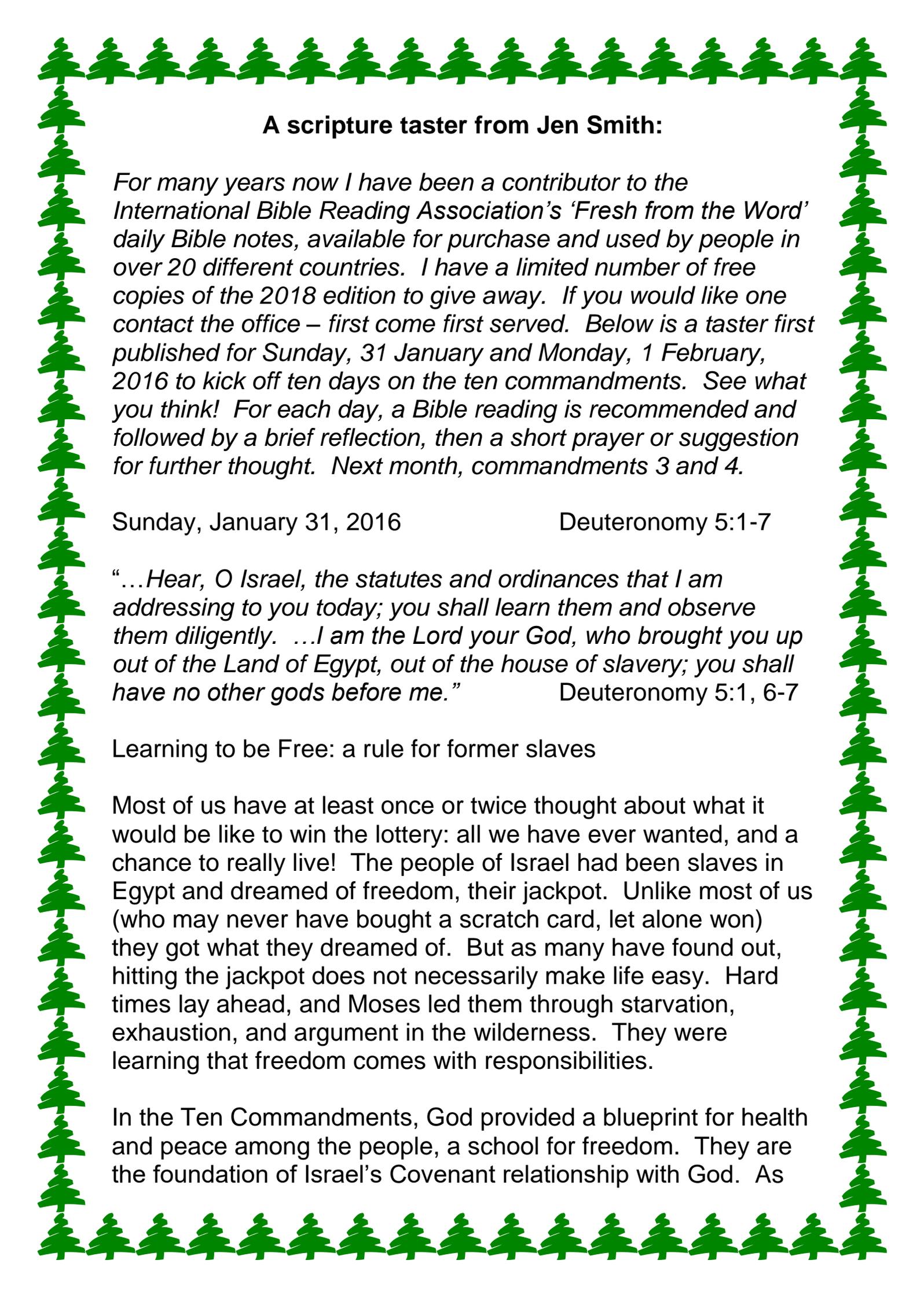
So, instead of a traditional advent calendar, we are invited to donate an item each day that Whitechapel mission will use. Each (working) day in the lead up until Christmas, we are collecting different items, as many as we can manage. They should all be easy to buy/find at home, and you can bring them to Chapel (to be stored in the Superintendent's study) for delivery to the Mission:

- 1 December – Baked beans
- 4 December – Socks (clean)
- 5 December – Sugar
- 6 December – Coffee
- 7 December – Honey
- 8 December - Tinned plum tomatoes
- 11 December – Hats (clean)
- 12 December – Biscuits
- 13 December – Hot chocolate (instant)
- 14 December – Razors
- 15 December – Shower gel
- 18 December – Towels (clean)
- 19 December – Toothbrushes (new)
- 20 December – Tooth paste
- 21 December – Cereal
- 22 December – Oats

Many thanks in advance for your generosity!

***Cheryl Gurnham – Senior Circuit Steward***





**A scripture taster from Jen Smith:**

*For many years now I have been a contributor to the International Bible Reading Association's 'Fresh from the Word' daily Bible notes, available for purchase and used by people in over 20 different countries. I have a limited number of free copies of the 2018 edition to give away. If you would like one contact the office – first come first served. Below is a taster first published for Sunday, 31 January and Monday, 1 February, 2016 to kick off ten days on the ten commandments. See what you think! For each day, a Bible reading is recommended and followed by a brief reflection, then a short prayer or suggestion for further thought. Next month, commandments 3 and 4.*

Sunday, January 31, 2016

Deuteronomy 5:1-7

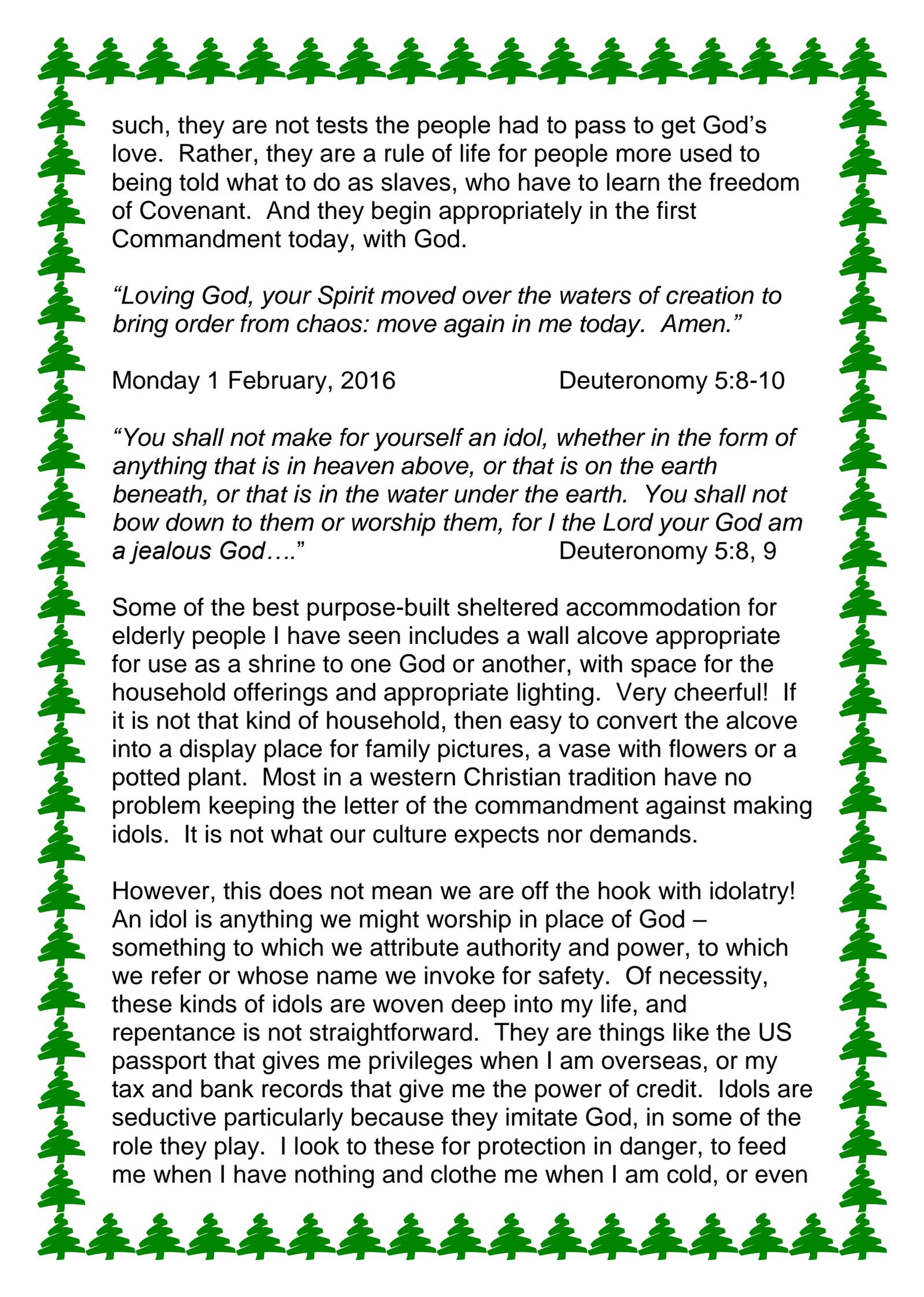
*“...Hear, O Israel, the statutes and ordinances that I am addressing to you today; you shall learn them and observe them diligently. ...I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the Land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.”*

Deuteronomy 5:1, 6-7

Learning to be Free: a rule for former slaves

Most of us have at least once or twice thought about what it would be like to win the lottery: all we have ever wanted, and a chance to really live! The people of Israel had been slaves in Egypt and dreamed of freedom, their jackpot. Unlike most of us (who may never have bought a scratch card, let alone won) they got what they dreamed of. But as many have found out, hitting the jackpot does not necessarily make life easy. Hard times lay ahead, and Moses led them through starvation, exhaustion, and argument in the wilderness. They were learning that freedom comes with responsibilities.

In the Ten Commandments, God provided a blueprint for health and peace among the people, a school for freedom. They are the foundation of Israel's Covenant relationship with God. As



such, they are not tests the people had to pass to get God's love. Rather, they are a rule of life for people more used to being told what to do as slaves, who have to learn the freedom of Covenant. And they begin appropriately in the first Commandment today, with God.

*"Loving God, your Spirit moved over the waters of creation to bring order from chaos: move again in me today. Amen."*

Monday 1 February, 2016

Deuteronomy 5:8-10

*"You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. You shall not bow down to them or worship them, for I the Lord your God am a jealous God...."*

Deuteronomy 5:8, 9

Some of the best purpose-built sheltered accommodation for elderly people I have seen includes a wall alcove appropriate for use as a shrine to one God or another, with space for the household offerings and appropriate lighting. Very cheerful! If it is not that kind of household, then easy to convert the alcove into a display place for family pictures, a vase with flowers or a potted plant. Most in a western Christian tradition have no problem keeping the letter of the commandment against making idols. It is not what our culture expects nor demands.

However, this does not mean we are off the hook with idolatry! An idol is anything we might worship in place of God – something to which we attribute authority and power, to which we refer or whose name we invoke for safety. Of necessity, these kinds of idols are woven deep into my life, and repentance is not straightforward. They are things like the US passport that gives me privileges when I am overseas, or my tax and bank records that give me the power of credit. Idols are seductive particularly because they imitate God, in some of the role they play. I look to these for protection in danger, to feed me when I have nothing and clothe me when I am cold, or even



just when I have the kind of bad day that demands new shoes!  
Idolatry is still a wily adversary, worthy of our attention.

Jealous God, expose the idols in what I do today and turn me  
again towards you, my steadfast rock and my salvation. Amen.

Consider these words: 'Until Jesus was all I had, I did not  
realise Jesus was all I needed.' How do you feel about this  
statement?

**Jennifer Smith – December 2017**

### **Nicola Hayes on 'Virtual Reality'**

*"I recently realised that I can watch (and listen) to our Sunday morning service, LIVE. In the past if I have missed a service I have read or listened to the sermon at another time. But watching it in real time was a wonderful discovery. I felt part of the service from the moment I clicked the link (<https://www.wesleyschapel.org.uk/worship-music/livestreaming/>) it was 10.55, the clergy hadn't entered yet, other members of the congregation were still arriving, and there was a general low murmuring while Elvis played the organ. I could see the back of Elvis head, as usual. So all familiar. And then the clergy entered, we were up on our feet and the service began. Yes, I too was up on my feet for that and all the hymns. So all in all an excellent experience. BUT I didn't get any hugs or handshakes as I arrived, and then when we came to Holy Communion I didn't feel it appropriate to stay. I can't explain why: I think it's a personal thing.*

*When I described my experience to Jen she encouraged me to write a short piece for Window on Wesley's. I thought it might raise awareness of what is now possible if you are unable to get to City Road. I would definitely do it again, and it did save me about an hour and a half in travelling time.*

*But I still prefer being with other people in reality."*

Since writing this Nicola has had a fall and hurt her hip and is confined to home for the time being. We send her our best wishes for a speedy and thorough recovery but in the meantime we know that she is watching our services.



# City Carol Service

14th of December 12.45-1.30  
Wesley's Chapel, 49 City Road, London



Come and enjoy some Christmas cheer with local organisations, charities, schools & neighbours.  
Great for making new friends!  
Refreshments will be served after the service.

**ALL WELCOME**

## Good Things at Goodmayes

Who do you recognise on this photo? Yes, there is Kido, Seunghee and Haim in one of their new churches at Goodmayes



but who is that other gentleman? Well it is David Tee, a long-time member of Wesley's Chapel and our one time Treasurer. Why are they together? Well most surprisingly David Tee has a link to Kido's Church and that link was cemented recently. Let us allow David tell the story.

*During my 44 years as Trust or Joint Trust Treasurer at Wesley's Chapel I worked with four Superintendent Ministers, many more Supernumerary Ministers and lots of other Methodist Ministers from the UK, USA, and around the world but Kido has been one of the very memorable friends during all those years. I watched him learn English, gain confidence, use his leadership qualities with young people, use his talents with music and share his gifts of understanding new technology and communications and above all else become a Methodist Minister. So when I heard that he had been stationed at the Barking, Dagenham and Ilford Circuit that included the Goodmayes Methodist Church my cup was filled to over flowing.*

*All my roots go back to Goodmayes and Seven Kings when in 1904 my grandfather (George William Tee), with others, opened the first Seven Kings Wesleyan Church the forerunner of Goodmayes Methodist Church. Then on 11th December 1965 my father, Wesley John Tee, opened the new church where Kido is the new Minister. Kido invited me to the 117th Church*

*Anniversary on 29th October and invited me to talk about the old church and my family connections.*

*To say Kido was magnificent is an understatement - I mean that he was impressive and inspiring. He conducted a service for all ages, he included families and the Sunday School children that included Haim who is now walking. I noticed that Seunghee was also helping other teachers with the young children. The congregation of about fifty adults is a microcosm of Wesley's Chapel. After the service I stayed for refreshments and a chat and the people are just as kind and friendly as we have at Wesley's.*

*I know Kido will succeed and do well and I am so pleased for the good folk of Goodmayes that they have the right man to lead them.*

Methodism is a Connexional Church – which means that we are all connected to one another – how wonderful is this!! I bet the congregation at Goodmayes were amazed that their new South Korean minister knew more about the history of their church through David than some of them did.

So thank you, David and all good wishes to Kido and his family.

**Jennifer Potter**

**Events in Zimbabwe stir some interesting memories**

Here is a photo taken in very different times of Robert Mugabe and his first wife, Sally and Revd Canaan Banana and his wife, Janet. Some of the photos which have appeared recently in



connection with the momentous events in Zimbabwe have shown Mugabe with a Catholic priest on his right and Canaan Banana on his left. Rev Canaan Banana was a Methodist minister and the first President of independent Zimbabwe when that role was largely ceremonial. Banana was

selected to become Zimbabwe's first President after the main

opposition leader, Joshua Nkomo turned down the post because it carried no real power. Revd Banana, like Nkomo was from Zimbabwe's minority Ndebele group, was chosen so that the new government would be seen to have an ethnic balance, Canaan Banana carried out his duties from 1980 until 1987 though at the end of his term he helped to bring about a halt to the ethnic violence that had wracked Matabeleland.

During earlier years Canaan Banana and his family had been forced into exile. I was in Botswana when he fled across the northern border on his way into exile in Europe and then the USA.



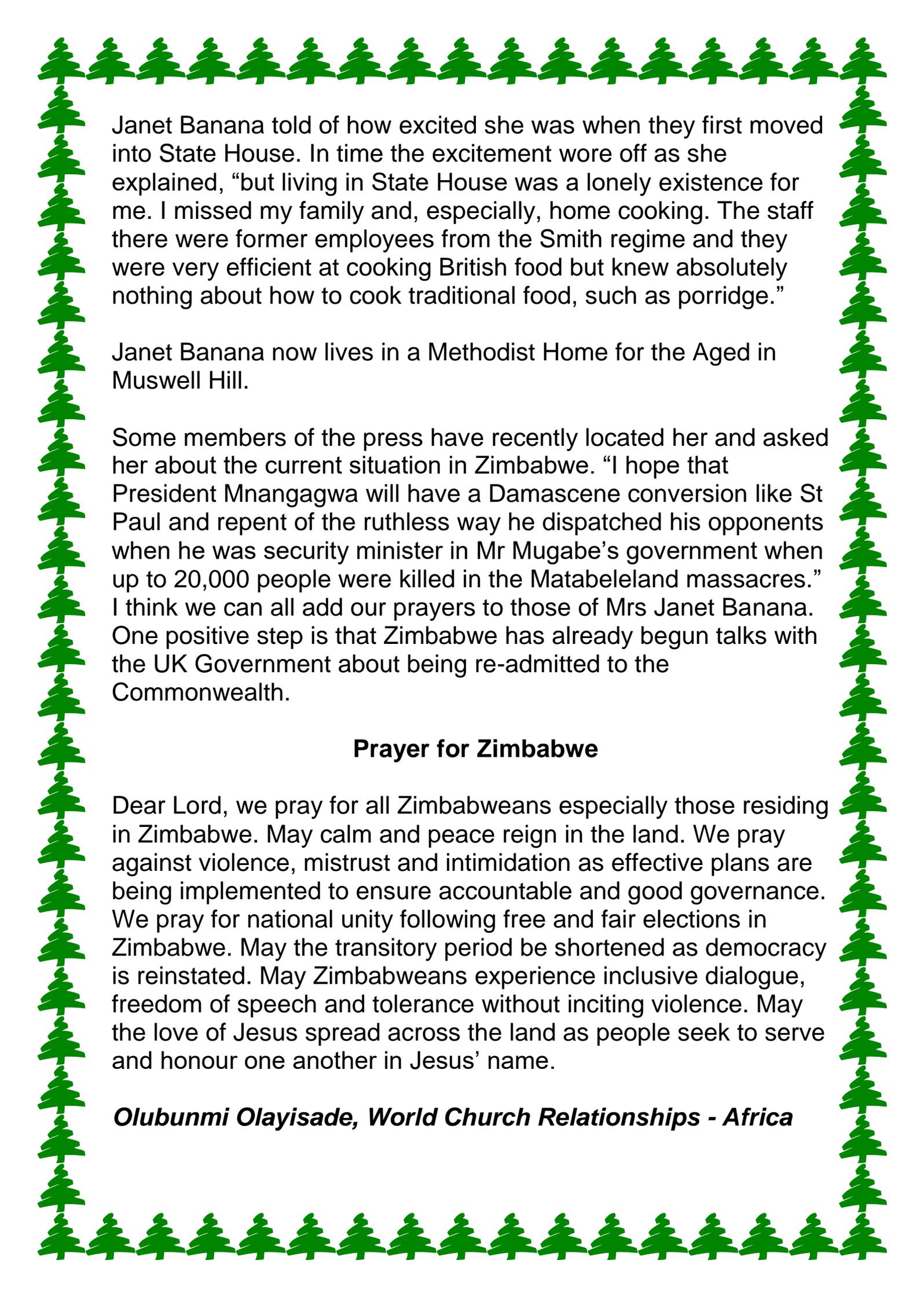
Revd Banana was also welcomed here at Wesley's Chapel.

The end of Canaan Banana's life was marred by his conviction on 11 accounts of sexual assault which saw him sentenced to 10 years in jail, nine of those suspended and most of his prison term spent under house arrest. He insisted throughout the case he was not a homosexual and that the allegations against him were part of a malicious vendetta. The evidence from several victims was, however, considered quite convincing. Revd Banana died in 2003 aged 67 years in Charing Cross Hospital where he was believed to have been suffering from cancer.

But that is not the end of the story. When her husband was convicted in the year 2000

Janet Banana sought asylum in Britain. When she got off the plane from Harare at Heathrow and announced that she was the former first lady of Zimbabwe and was seeking political asylum, the immigration officials were incredulous. She had one suitcase and £40 to her name. In an interview in 2002





Janet Banana told of how excited she was when they first moved into State House. In time the excitement wore off as she explained, “but living in State House was a lonely existence for me. I missed my family and, especially, home cooking. The staff there were former employees from the Smith regime and they were very efficient at cooking British food but knew absolutely nothing about how to cook traditional food, such as porridge.”

Janet Banana now lives in a Methodist Home for the Aged in Muswell Hill.

Some members of the press have recently located her and asked her about the current situation in Zimbabwe. “I hope that President Mnangagwa will have a Damascene conversion like St Paul and repent of the ruthless way he dispatched his opponents when he was security minister in Mr Mugabe’s government when up to 20,000 people were killed in the Matabeleland massacres.” I think we can all add our prayers to those of Mrs Janet Banana. One positive step is that Zimbabwe has already begun talks with the UK Government about being re-admitted to the Commonwealth.

### **Prayer for Zimbabwe**

Dear Lord, we pray for all Zimbabweans especially those residing in Zimbabwe. May calm and peace reign in the land. We pray against violence, mistrust and intimidation as effective plans are being implemented to ensure accountable and good governance. We pray for national unity following free and fair elections in Zimbabwe. May the transitory period be shortened as democracy is reinstated. May Zimbabweans experience inclusive dialogue, freedom of speech and tolerance without inciting violence. May the love of Jesus spread across the land as people seek to serve and honour one another in Jesus’ name.

***Olubunmi Olayisade, World Church Relationships - Africa***

## Hedd Wyn –the Shepherd Poet

Around the time of Remembrance Day this year an article appeared in the Guardian about Hedd Wyn. This name would have meant nothing to me a few years ago but after our ecumenical pilgrimage to the battlefields of Belgium a few years ago it now holds an honoured place in my memory.



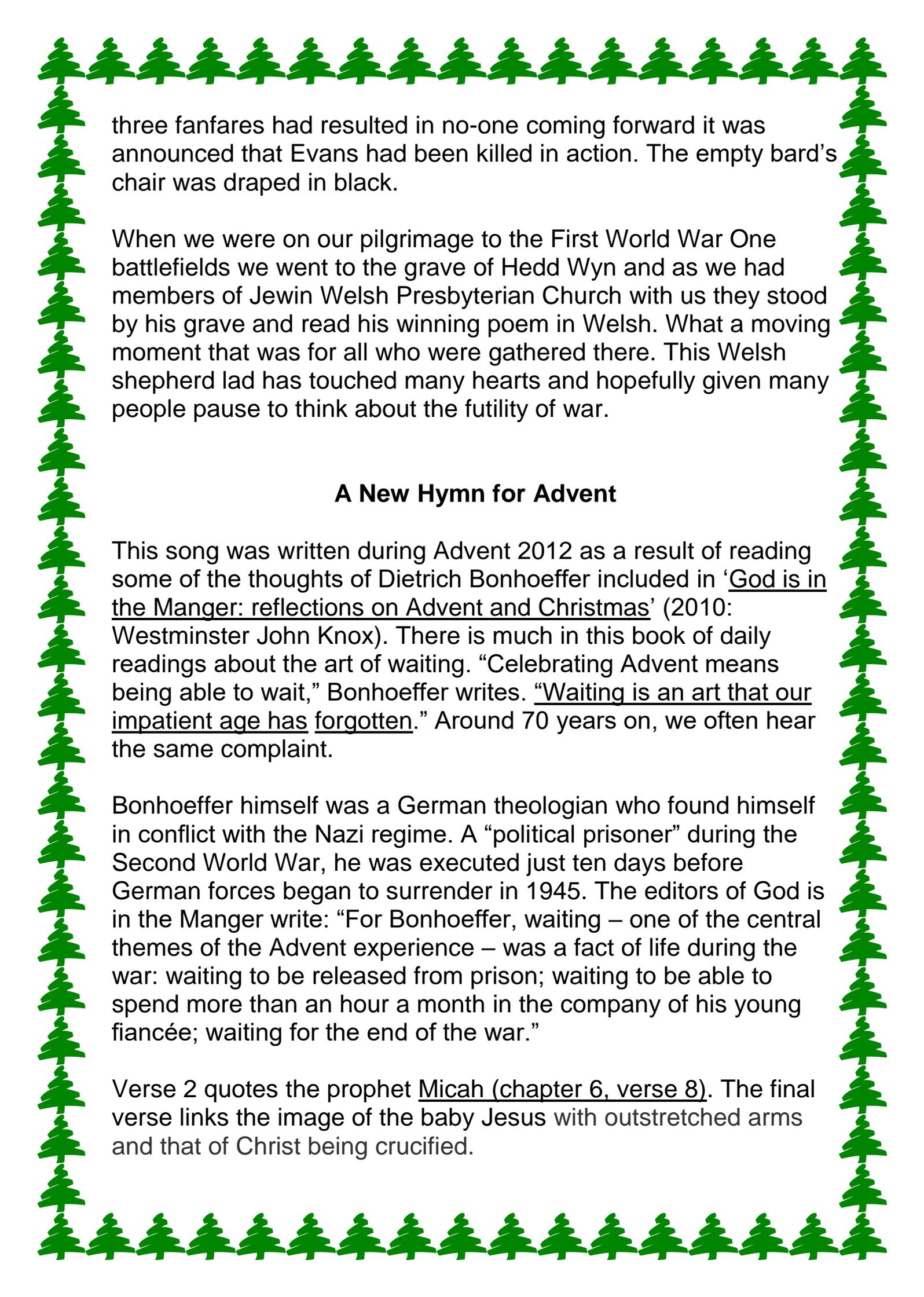
Hedd Wyn is the bardic name for Ellis Humphrey Evans – a Welsh poet, and means ‘blessed peace’ in Welsh. Evans was a pacifist and did not want to go and fight but when the army came to get his younger brother, Evans went his stead.

In France towards the end of the Passchendaele campaign which ended just over one hundred years ago Private Evans wrote what came to be his final poem on the theme of the hero. Even in the midst of war the postal system continued to operate to and from the trenches. Private Evans put his poem in an envelope and posted it back to Wales as his entry for the National Eisteddfod competition.



Evans – Hedd Wyn – was killed on the first day of the battle of Passchendaele. The stretcher bearers in the photo can be seen struggling to carry a wounded man to safety on August 1st 1917 – the previous day Hedd Wyn had been killed in this same area.

A few weeks after Hedd Wyn's death the poem he had submitted anonymously won the coveted bard's chair at the Eisteddfod. A fanfare sounded to call the winning poet to reveal himself. After



three fanfares had resulted in no-one coming forward it was announced that Evans had been killed in action. The empty bard's chair was draped in black.

When we were on our pilgrimage to the First World War One battlefields we went to the grave of Hedd Wyn and as we had members of Jewin Welsh Presbyterian Church with us they stood by his grave and read his winning poem in Welsh. What a moving moment that was for all who were gathered there. This Welsh shepherd lad has touched many hearts and hopefully given many people pause to think about the futility of war.

### **A New Hymn for Advent**

This song was written during Advent 2012 as a result of reading some of the thoughts of Dietrich Bonhoeffer included in 'God is in the Manger: reflections on Advent and Christmas' (2010: Westminster John Knox). There is much in this book of daily readings about the art of waiting. "Celebrating Advent means being able to wait," Bonhoeffer writes. "Waiting is an art that our impatient age has forgotten." Around 70 years on, we often hear the same complaint.

Bonhoeffer himself was a German theologian who found himself in conflict with the Nazi regime. A "political prisoner" during the Second World War, he was executed just ten days before German forces began to surrender in 1945. The editors of God is in the Manger write: "For Bonhoeffer, waiting – one of the central themes of the Advent experience – was a fact of life during the war: waiting to be released from prison; waiting to be able to spend more than an hour a month in the company of his young fiancée; waiting for the end of the war."

Verse 2 quotes the prophet Micah (chapter 6, verse 8). The final verse links the image of the baby Jesus with outstretched arms and that of Christ being crucified.

And I will wait now,  
and in the waiting  
feel still more closely  
your love for me.  
For I'll be patient  
and I'll be gentle,  
touched by your steadfast  
humility.

And I will hope now  
and in the hoping  
make very action  
A gift for you.  
For I'll seek justice  
and I'll love mercy  
each word I speak  
an echo of you.

And I will go now,  
and in the going  
follow your Christ light  
so I will see  
how I may find you,  
holy and human,  
your arms stretched open  
waiting for me.

*Words: © 2013 Laurence Wareing.*

*Tune Bunessan (StF 125) 'Morning has broken' is suitable for these words.*



***January Lunchtime Recitals  
Tuesdays @ 1.05pm***

- |                        |                                       |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>  | <b>Anthony Gritten – Organ</b>        |
| <b>16<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Natalie Davies – Mezzo Soprano</b> |
| <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b> | <b>Hao Zi Yoh - Piano</b>             |
| <b>30<sup>th</sup></b> | <b>Ingrid Kvale – Accordion</b>       |

Dear Friend,

As the community worker with Wesley's Chapel it's great when I am able to share good news with people.

This month I have been able to celebrate and thank God for Rachel Sisman passing her final assessment and becoming a fully qualified archaeologist. We had the first meeting of our pub bible study for 18-30 year olds and began studying Jesus spiritual habits, after a meal. I have also been able to celebrate the finance committee giving their blessing to the plans for the development of the young adults work over the coming year.



Part of that development includes giving social opportunities, where people have the chance to just spend time with others building up friendships and developing conversation. With this in mind we are going to be beginning socials for 18-30 year olds on the first Saturday evening of each month from January. Our launch event is going to be **ice-skating at Somerset House on January 6<sup>th</sup>**. If you are aged 18-30 and want to come along please either catch me at church, email me or text me. My work mobile number is 07483146777.

I'm also working with Judith, (our Leysian Missioner), to launch a series of socials for 16-21 year olds from Easter. **See the competition elsewhere in this edition of WOW for a young person to design to design a flyer for this.**

We've chosen the age brackets in light of looking at what we are going to be doing and how we want to seek to help develop discipleship amongst different groups. If you'd like more details please get in touch with me [cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk).

I'd like to invite you to celebrate these things with me and give a prayer of thanks as you read. I'd also invite you to pray for me with those young people in our Chapel and community who are finding less to celebrate at the moment and those who are seeking to work with them.

Amongst those in our surrounding community are City YMCA who are redeveloping their accommodation in Errol Street. More information can be found at

<http://www.cityymca.org/ESAppeal.html> please pray for both them and the work.

### **The Annual Parliamentary Covenant Service 2018**

At the beginning of each year a Methodist Covenant Service is held in St Mary Undercroft, the Chapel in the Palace of



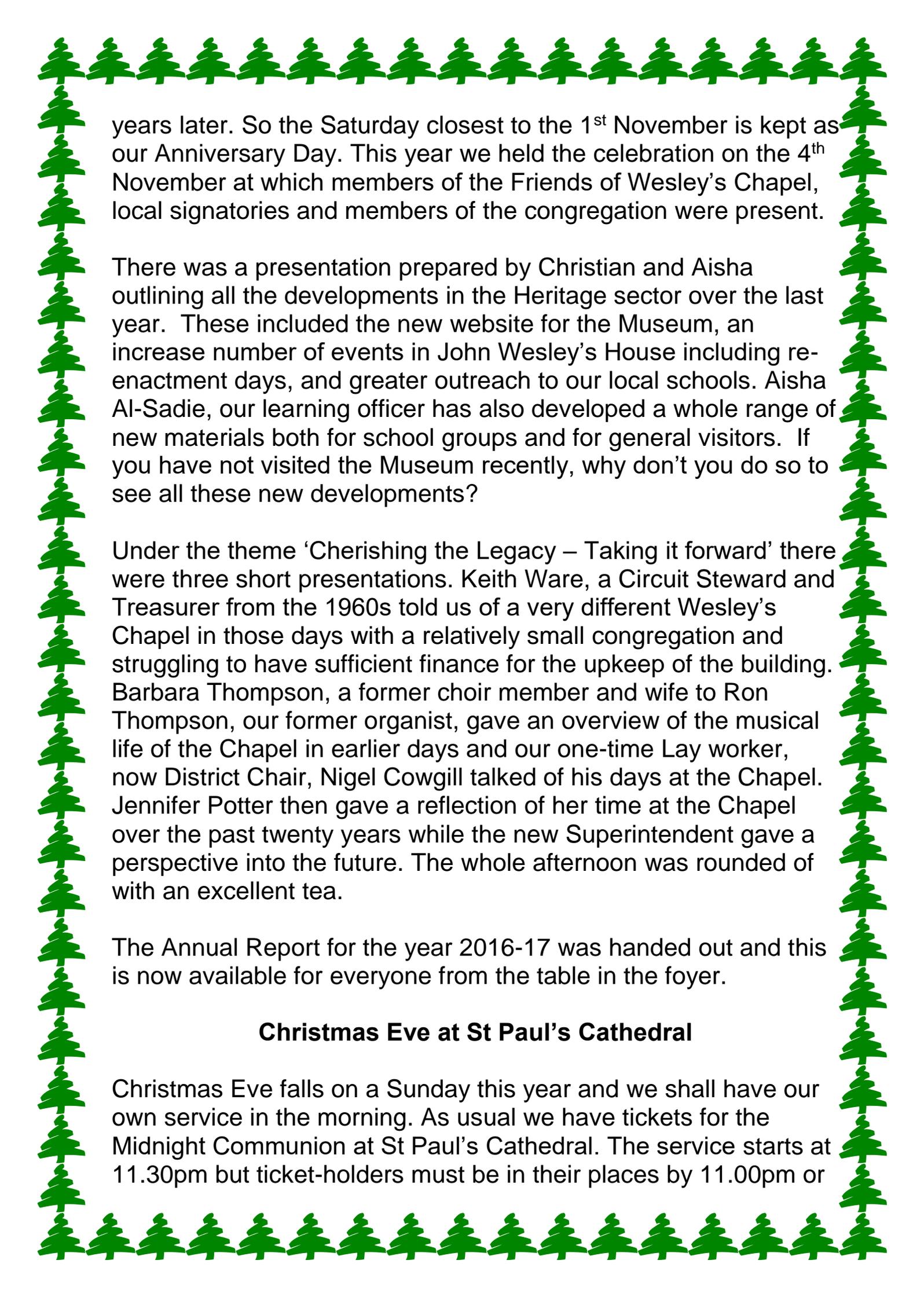
Westminster – the Chapel for Parliament. In the New Year it will be held on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January at 5.30pm with access from 5.00pm. The service will be led by the President of the Conference, Rev Loraine Mellor and the Superintendent of

Central Hall, Rev Martyn Atkins and the preacher will be Rev Dr Leslie Griffiths.

All are welcome to the service but you need to let Ollie McEwan at Central Hall know beforehand. She can be contacted at [ollie.mcewan@mchw.org.uk](mailto:ollie.mcewan@mchw.org.uk) or by ringing 020 7222 8010. You will need to provide Ollie with your name, address and all contact details and you will need to come with identification – passport or driving license.

### **Chapel Anniversary Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

Wesley's Chapel or City Road Chapel as it was known then was officially opened on the 1<sup>st</sup> November 1778 and after the extensive restoration of the 1970s was officially reopened 200



years later. So the Saturday closest to the 1<sup>st</sup> November is kept as our Anniversary Day. This year we held the celebration on the 4<sup>th</sup> November at which members of the Friends of Wesley's Chapel, local signatories and members of the congregation were present.

There was a presentation prepared by Christian and Aisha outlining all the developments in the Heritage sector over the last year. These included the new website for the Museum, an increase number of events in John Wesley's House including re-enactment days, and greater outreach to our local schools. Aisha Al-Sadie, our learning officer has also developed a whole range of new materials both for school groups and for general visitors. If you have not visited the Museum recently, why don't you do so to see all these new developments?

Under the theme 'Cherishing the Legacy – Taking it forward' there were three short presentations. Keith Ware, a Circuit Steward and Treasurer from the 1960s told us of a very different Wesley's Chapel in those days with a relatively small congregation and struggling to have sufficient finance for the upkeep of the building. Barbara Thompson, a former choir member and wife to Ron Thompson, our former organist, gave an overview of the musical life of the Chapel in earlier days and our one-time Lay worker, now District Chair, Nigel Cowgill talked of his days at the Chapel. Jennifer Potter then gave a reflection of her time at the Chapel over the past twenty years while the new Superintendent gave a perspective into the future. The whole afternoon was rounded off with an excellent tea.

The Annual Report for the year 2016-17 was handed out and this is now available for everyone from the table in the foyer.

### **Christmas Eve at St Paul's Cathedral**

Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday this year and we shall have our own service in the morning. As usual we have tickets for the Midnight Communion at St Paul's Cathedral. The service starts at 11.30pm but ticket-holders must be in their places by 11.00pm or

else the reserved seating will be offered to others. The doors open at 10.30pm and people from Wesley's Chapel holding tickets should walk past the queues outside and show their ticket to the vergers on duty. You will then be guided to the seating set aside for members of Wesley's Chapel, usually near the Dome, and lookout for Jennifer Potter and other members of the congregation who will be looking out for you.

The tickets are numbered – this is for administrative purposes – they do not cost anything. However, as there is a heavy demand for these tickets please take them only if you know that you are able to use them and if your circumstances change please return any spare tickets.

You can place your order by leaving a note or by phoning Jennifer and ones that have been ordered will be issued on the 10<sup>th</sup> December after the service.

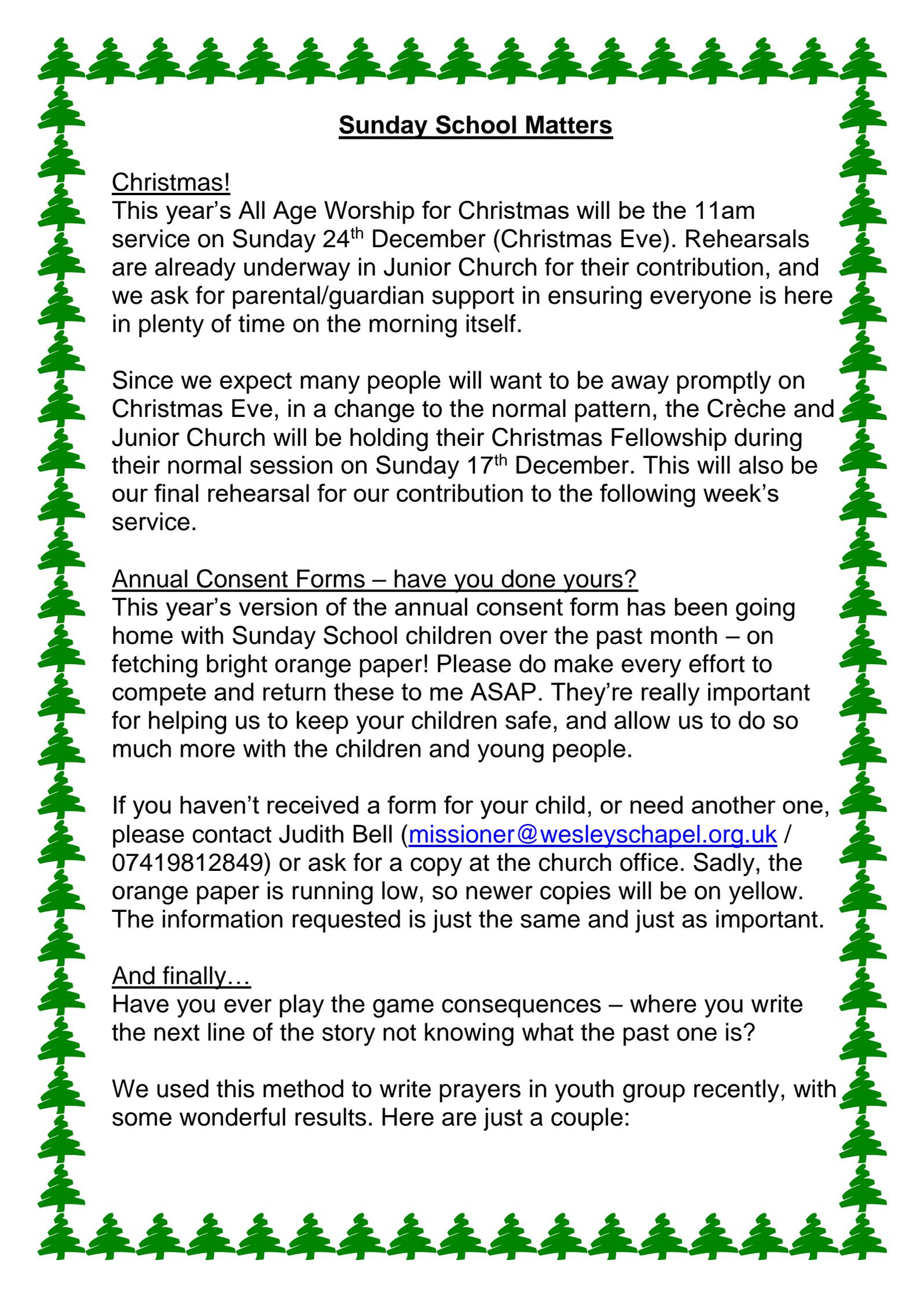
**Let me repeat: With your ticket you do not need to stand in the queue outside the Cathedral. Walk straight up to the people on the doors and show your ticket and say you are from Wesley's Chapel.**

### **Forthcoming Special Services**

Our Watchnight Service will take place as usual on New Year's Eve which this year is a Sunday. We begin at 11.00pm and end just after midnight. We will include a review of the past year and the remembrance of those members who have died during that period. We shall also pray that God will bless us all in 2018.



Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> January will be the service where we renew our Covenant with God. We hope that as many people as possible will be able to be with us for that service.



## Sunday School Matters

### Christmas!

This year's All Age Worship for Christmas will be the 11am service on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December (Christmas Eve). Rehearsals are already underway in Junior Church for their contribution, and we ask for parental/guardian support in ensuring everyone is here in plenty of time on the morning itself.

Since we expect many people will want to be away promptly on Christmas Eve, in a change to the normal pattern, the Crèche and Junior Church will be holding their Christmas Fellowship during their normal session on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> December. This will also be our final rehearsal for our contribution to the following week's service.

### Annual Consent Forms – have you done yours?

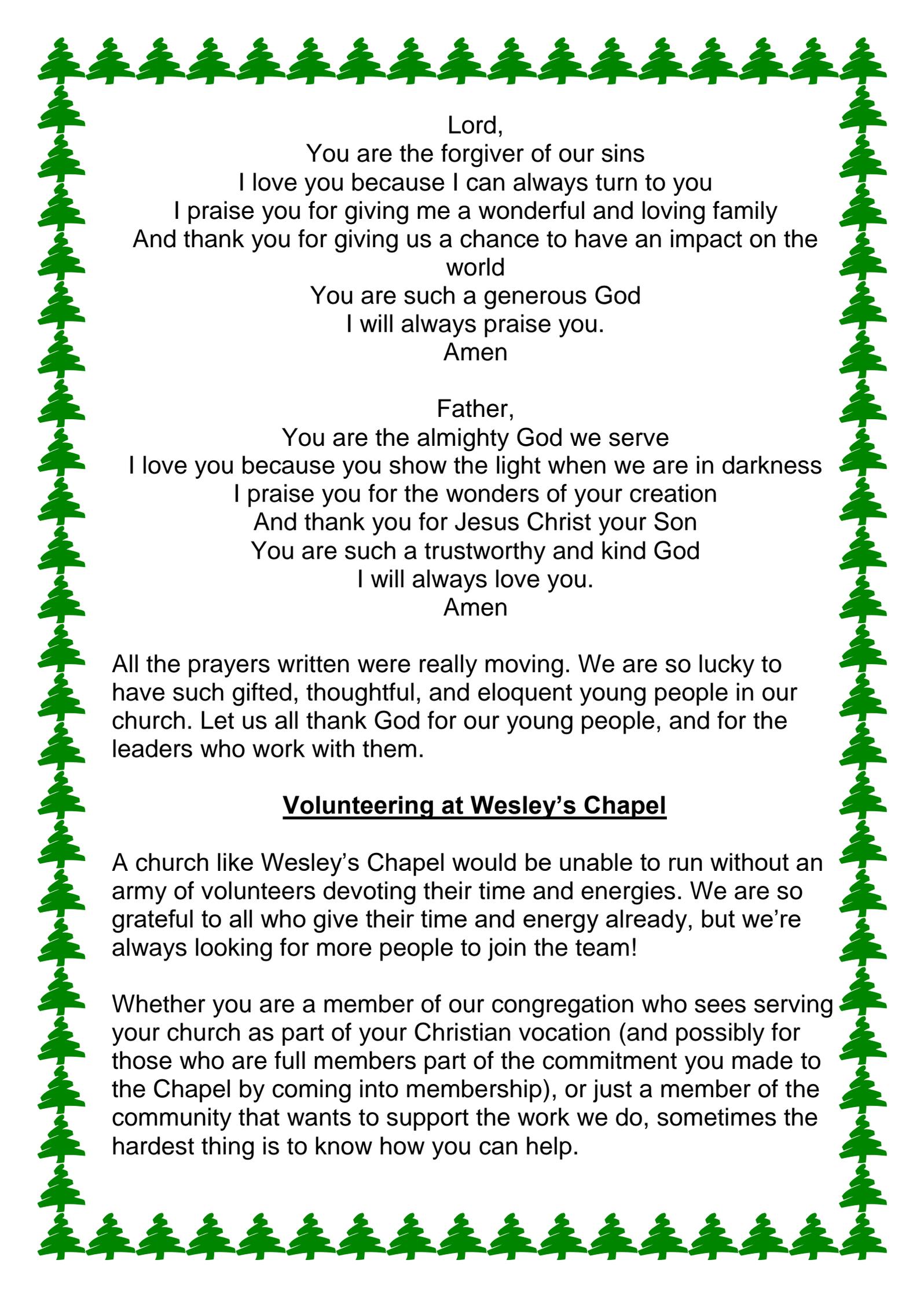
This year's version of the annual consent form has been going home with Sunday School children over the past month – on fetching bright orange paper! Please do make every effort to complete and return these to me ASAP. They're really important for helping us to keep your children safe, and allow us to do so much more with the children and young people.

If you haven't received a form for your child, or need another one, please contact Judith Bell ([missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk) / 07419812849) or ask for a copy at the church office. Sadly, the orange paper is running low, so newer copies will be on yellow. The information requested is just the same and just as important.

### And finally...

Have you ever play the game consequences – where you write the next line of the story not knowing what the past one is?

We used this method to write prayers in youth group recently, with some wonderful results. Here are just a couple:



Lord,  
You are the forgiver of our sins  
I love you because I can always turn to you  
I praise you for giving me a wonderful and loving family  
And thank you for giving us a chance to have an impact on the  
world  
You are such a generous God  
I will always praise you.  
Amen

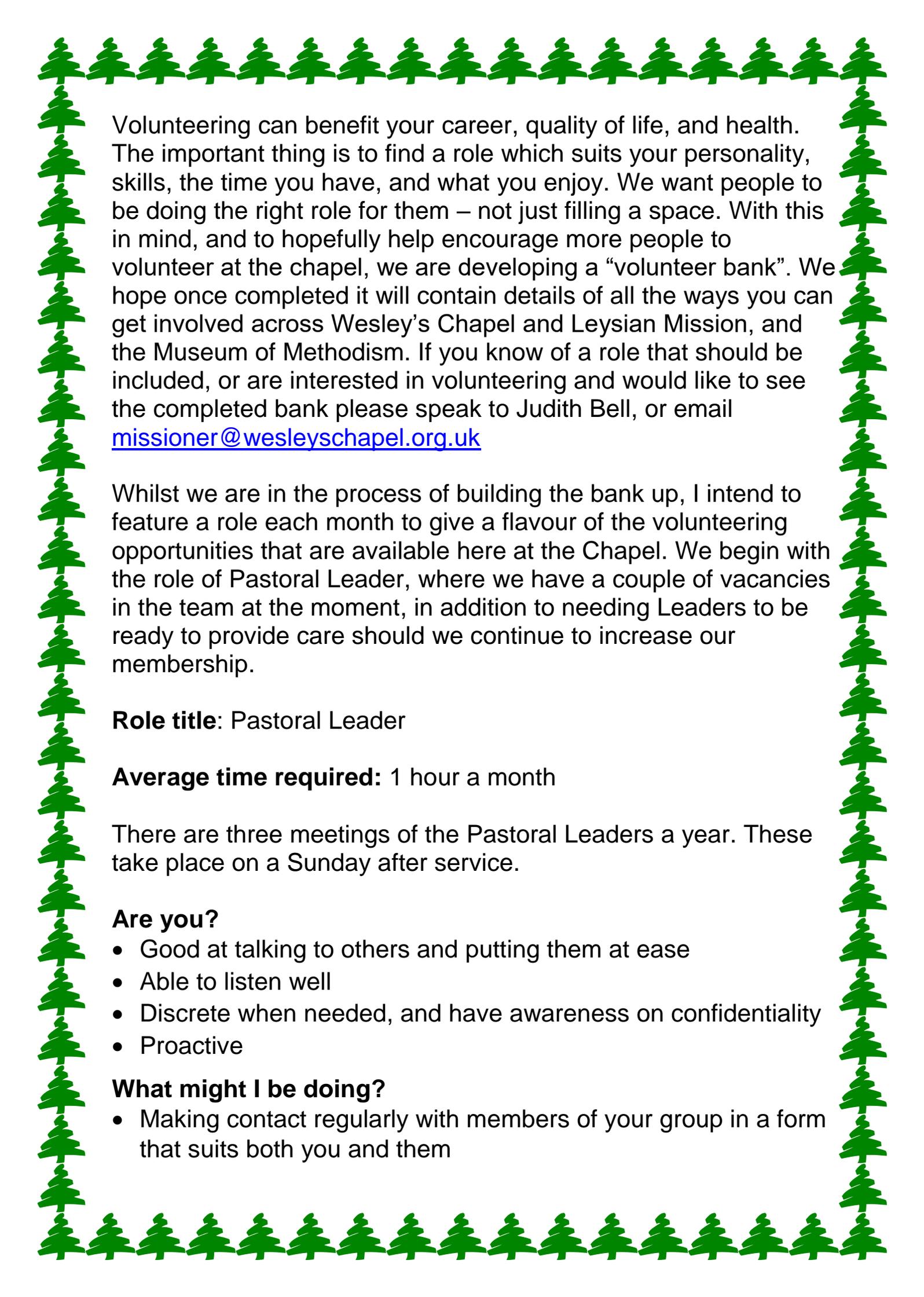
Father,  
You are the almighty God we serve  
I love you because you show the light when we are in darkness  
I praise you for the wonders of your creation  
And thank you for Jesus Christ your Son  
You are such a trustworthy and kind God  
I will always love you.  
Amen

All the prayers written were really moving. We are so lucky to have such gifted, thoughtful, and eloquent young people in our church. Let us all thank God for our young people, and for the leaders who work with them.

### **Volunteering at Wesley's Chapel**

A church like Wesley's Chapel would be unable to run without an army of volunteers devoting their time and energies. We are so grateful to all who give their time and energy already, but we're always looking for more people to join the team!

Whether you are a member of our congregation who sees serving your church as part of your Christian vocation (and possibly for those who are full members part of the commitment you made to the Chapel by coming into membership), or just a member of the community that wants to support the work we do, sometimes the hardest thing is to know how you can help.



Volunteering can benefit your career, quality of life, and health. The important thing is to find a role which suits your personality, skills, the time you have, and what you enjoy. We want people to be doing the right role for them – not just filling a space. With this in mind, and to hopefully help encourage more people to volunteer at the chapel, we are developing a “volunteer bank”. We hope once completed it will contain details of all the ways you can get involved across Wesley’s Chapel and Leysian Mission, and the Museum of Methodism. If you know of a role that should be included, or are interested in volunteering and would like to see the completed bank please speak to Judith Bell, or email [missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk)

Whilst we are in the process of building the bank up, I intend to feature a role each month to give a flavour of the volunteering opportunities that are available here at the Chapel. We begin with the role of Pastoral Leader, where we have a couple of vacancies in the team at the moment, in addition to needing Leaders to be ready to provide care should we continue to increase our membership.

**Role title:** Pastoral Leader

**Average time required:** 1 hour a month

There are three meetings of the Pastoral Leaders a year. These take place on a Sunday after service.

**Are you?**

- Good at talking to others and putting them at ease
- Able to listen well
- Discrete when needed, and have awareness on confidentiality
- Proactive

**What might I be doing?**

- Making contact regularly with members of your group in a form that suits both you and them

- 
- Talking with your group members, and listening non-judgementally
  - Acting as a link person between members and the staff team

**To find our more speak to:** Judith Bell

### **Competition Time for 14 – 21 year olds!**

We are starting a social group for those aged 16-21 from April. We need somebody artistic to design/photograph an image for this group which can form the basis of posters, flyers and social media content, and hope a competition will help to get the creativity flowing.

The winner will see their work being used to promote this project and receive a £20 gift voucher. To enter submit your image itself, and a copy of it in use as a flyer using the following details:

Wesley's Chapel and Leysian Mission 16 – 21 group  
Meeting the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month

#### **Events:**

**April 20<sup>th</sup> – Open Mic Night**

**May 18<sup>th</sup> – Nandos and back for board games**

**June 15<sup>th</sup> – Photography evening**

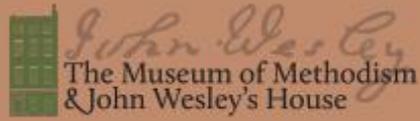
**July 20<sup>th</sup> – No meeting, but come along to the Moving Stories weekend**

**August 17<sup>th</sup> – Pizza and Park evening**

This competition is open to all aged 14-21, although the socials themselves will be for those aged 16-21. **Closing Date for entries 7<sup>th</sup> January.** Send entries to Sally Rush

([cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:cw@wesleyschapel.org.uk)) or Judith Bell

([missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:missioner@wesleyschapel.org.uk)). Please also talk to Judith or Sally if you wish for further details on either the competition or the socials.



# A Georgian Tea Room

16th of December 12-2.30pm

Free entry



Come and enjoy tea, coffee, mulled apple juice and delicious homemade cake served by our Georgian re-enactors within our stunning Radnor Hall, which will be dressed as an old fashioned tea room!

Donations for cake will raise money for our free learning programmes for schools.

CHILDREN'S PAGE



Mouse Makes

Colour in one star a day as you countdown to Christmas

"I bring you **good news** that will bring great **joy** to all people. The **Saviour** has been born today! ...  
Glory to God in the highest heaven, and peace on earth to those with whom God is pleased".

from Luke 2 vs. 10,11,14

C H R I S T M A S  
 B A B Y T H O L Y J U D E A R T H  
 B J P E A C E S O N O F L O C K P U S  
 R O F I E L D E G A S H E P H E R D S  
 I Y O N B O R N O Z E G M A R Y A A A  
 N M R N A T O Z O A P A A L I R I V V  
 G O D S C H I L D R H L N A S O S I I  
 L J E S U S H O N E L I G H T O E D O  
 O G U A R D I B E T H L E H E M Z S U  
 R S L S H E E P W H Y E R L O R D O R  
 Y N N A N G E L S B H E A V E N A M E

MARY • JOSEPH • NAZARETH • GALILEE • JUDEA • BETHLEHEM • DAVID  
 HOLY • CHILD • BABY • SON • NAME • JESUS • MANGER • ROOM • INN  
 SHEPHERDS • FIELD • GUARD • FLOCK • SHEEP • ANGELS • SHONE • BRING  
 GOOD NEWS • JOY • SAVIOUR • BORN • CHRIST • LORD • LIGHT  
 PRAISE • GLORY • GOD • PEACE • EARTH • HEAVEN • CHRISTMAS



# Autumn/Winter



Exciting things happening at Wesley's Chapel, House & Museum for families

For more information visit [www.wesleysheritage.org.uk](http://www.wesleysheritage.org.uk)

Free

## Time Travel!

Explore Wesley's House, meet our re-enactors, complete our children's trail. On certain dates there will be wonderful 18<sup>th</sup> century baking to try, lace making or crafts.

December 13<sup>th</sup> from 11am-3pm



## A Christmas Carol

Join us this Christmas inside Wesley's Chapel on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, 3pm- 4.15pm for a fantastic festive show- Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol, performed by the wonderful Quantum Theatre.

Suitable for families.

Ticket Prices: Adult- £10, Child- £6, Family- £25

Tickets are available online at [www.quantumtheatre.co.uk](http://www.quantumtheatre.co.uk)



Free

## Under 5s Christmas Workshop

Join us on the 18<sup>th</sup> of December from 10am-12pm for a magical morning of Christmas crafts with workshops designed for under 5s, with support from Islington Museum. We will be making wreaths, pomanders and decorations to take home!





*John Wesley*  
The Museum of Methodism  
& John Wesley's House

# The Enchanted Christmas of John Wesley

13th of December 11am-3pm  
Everything is free



## Experience a Georgian Christmas!

Explore John Wesley's House which will be decorated as it would have been for Christmas over 200 years ago.  
Meet our re-enactors and taste some 18th century baking & mulled apple juice.  
There will also be Christmas make and take crafts for kids.

## Weekly programme of events

Sunday	9.45am	Holy Communion (except 1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday in month)
	11.00am	Morning Service
	12.30pm	Methodist Women in Britain (MWIB) (First Sunday in the month)
	12.30pm	Wesley's Chapel Ghana Fellowship (Last Sunday in the month)
	7.00pm	Taizé Evening Service (Last Sunday in the month)
Monday	7.00am	Prayer Meeting
	2.00pm	Sisterhood Fellowship
Tuesday	1.05 pm	Lunchtime Recital
	6.30pm	Boys' Brigade & Girls' Association (11 & under)
	7.45pm	Boys' Brigade (over 11's)
Wednesday	10.00am	Stay and Play (pre-school)
	12.45pm	Service of Holy Communion
Thursday	12.45pm	Lunchtime Service



If you would like to submit an article, poem, prayer or item of interest for this magazine please email it to: [pa@wesleyschapel.org.uk](mailto:pa@wesleyschapel.org.uk) or leave it at the Church Office marked FAO Tracey Smith

*Wesley's Chapel*

*Evening*

Taizé



*A Service of prayer, Song and Contemplation*

**Last Sunday of every month  
at 7.00pm**

